



Clermont County On The Move

a newsletter for citizens

Commissioners: Mary Walker, Bob Proud, and Scott Croswell

April, 2004

www.co.clermont.oh.us

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

April is designated as Child Abuse Prevention Month. This is an opportunity for all of us to promote child abuse awareness and prevention in our county. Each year, more than three million children in the United States are reported abused or neglected, according to statistics released by Prevent Child Abuse

America, the nation's leading child abuse prevention organization. Here in Clermont County, approximately 1,500 children were reported abused or neglected in 2003.



The physical and emotional abuse of children yields harmful consequences for the community. A growing body of evidence links child abuse and neglect with drug abuse, teen pregnancy, youth violence, and chronic health problems. It is, therefore, critical to focus on preventing child abuse and neglect before it starts. That is what April's Child Abuse Prevention efforts are all about.

There are many things you can do to help prevent child abuse:

- Be a nurturing parent. Children need to know they are loved.
- Help a friend, neighbor, or relative if they are having difficulty with their children. Someone you know may be struggling with his/her parenting responsibilities.
- Get involved - be an advocate for services to help families. Talk to your community leaders, clergy, libraries, and schools to develop services to meet the needs of children and families.
- Volunteer at a local child abuse program.

If you suspect a child is being abused, call Children's Protective Services at **732-STOP (7867)**.

Full House at Batavia Town Meeting

The Batavia Township Town Hall was packed for the March 23, 2004 Board of Commissioners town hall meeting, hosted by the Village of Batavia and Batavia Township. Among the topics discussed: road and bridge improvements, economic development partnerships, and the hike-bike trail that will link Batavia and Williamsburg.



Check the Clermont County website, www.co.clermont.oh.us for details on the next town meeting. See you there!

Pictured above: Lyle Bloom explains water/sewer updates in the area.

Building Safety Week Recognizes Importance of Safe Construction

By: Vicky Stegg, Permit Central

“If a builder builds a house and does not make its construction firm, and the house collapses and causes the death of the owner, that builder shall be put to death.” That excerpt, from the code of Hammurabi, serves as an example of what building code enforcement was like almost 4,000 years ago.



Today, building code enforcement is the job of professionals and certified inspectors. During the week of April 4-10, 2004, building departments around the world will celebrate Building Safety Week. This year's theme is “You Can Be a Part of Building Safety Week.” The International Code Council Foundation sponsors Building Safety Week and works with communities around the world to promote the use, enforcement, and understanding of the importance of building codes to public safety.

Building code regulations help to ensure that homes, schools, workplaces, and other buildings are as safe as possible. Building Safety Week recognizes the importance of safe buildings and the professionals who enforce safety in our community. Public safety is our number one concern.

In an effort to make citizens a part of Building Safety Week, we will have staff available at several retail stores with a display, handouts, and to answer any questions. We will be at the following locations:

Home Depot - SR 28 - April 6, 2004

Lowe's - SR 125 - April 7, 2004

Kibler's - Mt. Orab (Brown County) - April 8, 2004

By inspecting buildings during and after construction, building departments help to ensure that buildings in the community are safe, sound, and accessible places to live, work, play, and learn.

Clermont County: Open for Business

To focus on the County's commitment to growth, the Board of County Commissioners has appropriated funding for the Office of Economic Development (OED). This agency reports directly to David Spinney, county administrator.



Curt Paddock

OED will be directed by Curt Paddock, CECD, AICP, formerly director of the Clermont County Department of Community Planning and Development. With over 25 years of development experience, Mr. Paddock is certified by the International Economic Develop-

ment Council as an economic development professional.

OED will coordinate all aspects of the County's economic development efforts. These activities include the Rural Enterprise Tax Abatement program, Business Expansion and Retention efforts, Workforce Development initiatives, land assembly, community resource development, and financial assistance for business attraction.

In addition, Mr. Paddock will serve as a liaison for addressing and resolving business issues within county government.

River Sweep / Clean and Green Set for April 24

By: John McManus, OEQ

Pitch in to help one of the largest volunteer cleanup efforts in Ohio! For the very first time, Clean and Green and East Fork River Sweep organizers, are joining forces to hold a countywide cleanup on Saturday, April 24, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

No need to bring anything - all supplies are provided, including event t-shirts and lunch! With 18 gathering points, there is sure to be a site near you. Anyone interested in canoeing or working near the river should call 734-4323 to register.

For those interested in working at one of the neighborhood cleanup locations, call the Clean and Green Coordinator at 753-9222. Registration forms are also available at www.oeq.net.

Death Investigation Training Seminar

By: Debbie Hawkins, Coroner's Office

On Saturday, April 17, 2004, the Milford Police Department will hold a "Death Investigation" training seminar at the Clermont County Chamber of Commerce offices on Chamber Drive in Milford. The seminar will run from 8:00 a.m. until noon and there is no cost to attend.

Instructors for the course include Clermont County Coroner Dr. Brian Treon and assistant Clermont County Prosecutor and Board certified Medico-legal death investigator Darrell Hawkins, J.D.

For additional information, contact the Clermont County Coroner's office at 732-8117.

Walking for Health

By: Jennifer Vesper, General Health District

To celebrate National Nutrition Month in March, nurses and the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) staff have been competing in a walking program. We have been wearing pedometers for the past 4 weeks to count our steps. Our goal for the first week was 2,500 steps, the second week 5,000 steps, the third week 7,500 steps and the fourth week is 10,000 steps.

We'll let you know next month how we did!

March Madness on Clermont County Courts !

By: Lisa Davis, MRDD



March Madness was celebrated in Clermont County on March 19 as hoopsters from the Sheriff's Office faced off against the MRDD Wildey School Comets basketball team. Both teams played hard, but in the end, the Comets won, 52 to 46.

Officials for the game were David Sininger from MRDD and Chris Mehlman from the Auditor's Office. Team coaches were Jim Malloni (Sheriff's team) and Debbie Goodman (Comets).



The Sheriff's team was composed of: Elgen "Big E" Lamb, "Shy" Mark Walker, Russell "Stilt" Kenney, David "Fly" Williamson, Josh "Big O" Oberschlake, "Bad" Billy Crouch, "Jumpin" Josiah Myers, "Sparklin" Steve Leavy, and Tim "Taz" Zurmehly.

Pictured above: "Sweet Willie" Scharber and Delbert "Fast Feet" Witt.



April Commissioner Sessions

Tues., April 6	1:00 p.m.
Wed., April 7	1:00 p.m.
Tues., April 13	1:00 p.m.
Wed., April 14	1:00 p.m.
Tues., April 20	1:00 p.m.
Wed., April 21	1:00 p.m.
Tues., April 27	1:00 p.m.
Wed., April 28	1:00 p.m.

All regular sessions are held in the third floor session room of the Clermont County Administration Building, 101 East Main Street in Batavia, Ohio. For agenda information, contact the BCC offices at (513) 732-7300.

Low Cost Rabies Clinic

By: Amanda Myers, General Health District

The Clermont County General Health District, in partnership with All Creatures Animal Hospital, will be holding a low cost rabies vaccination clinic at All Creatures Animal Hospital on State Route 125 in Amelia.

The clinic will be held Sunday April 25, 2004 between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. The fee for vaccination will be \$5, payable in cash only. All dogs must be leashed and all cats must be contained in a carrier.

A three year vaccination will be administered to all animals for which proper documentation of current vaccination status is provided. All others will receive a one year vaccine. A rabies tag alone will not be sufficient documentation to administer a three-year vaccination.

For questions, please contact Joshua Lane or Rob Perry at (513) 732-7499.



Clermont County Park Events

By: Keith Robinson, park naturalist

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 3, 10:00 a.m.

Sycamore Park

Bring a basket or bag and join the hunt for the brightest eggs!



Earthday Celebration at UC Clermont

Saturday April 24, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Bring the whole family out to celebrate Earthday.

Many activities and guest speakers are planned for all ages. Raptor, Inc. and the Cincinnati Museum Center will present live animal programs.

Wildflower Walks

Sunday April 18, 2:00 p.m.,

Wednesday April 28, 6:00 p.m., Sycamore Park



Join Naturalist Keith Robinson for a stroll around Sycamore Park as you enjoy the splendid display of color that spring wildflowers have to offer.

For additional information on Clermont County park activities, call 732-2977.

National Library Week is Coming!

By: Carol Suhre, Law Library

The Clermont County Law Library is planning a week of food, fun, and prizes to mark *National Library Week*, April 19-23, 2004. For more information on event times, call us at 732-7109.

Concealed Carry

On January 7, 2004, the Ohio Legislature passed a law that will allow qualified citizens to obtain a license to carry concealed firearms under certain circumstances. The law has been signed by Governor Taft and will be effective on April 7 of this year. At that time, or shortly thereafter, Ohio Sheriff's Offices will begin accepting applications from citizens for concealed carry licenses.

For details, check the Clermont County Sheriff's website at www.clermontsheriff.org or call the concealed carry hotline at 395-3354.

On the Move is a service of the Board of Clermont County Commissioners. For more information about any of the articles included in this publication, contact Kathy Lehr or Bobbi Padgett at **732-7597**.